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Press Release

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**Maryland Historical Trust Announces 2012 Maryland Preservation
Award Recipients**

Fourteen Awards Presented to Recipients from 12 Maryland Counties

Crownsville, MD – The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) has selected 14 projects, organizations and individuals to receive the 2012 Maryland Preservation Awards. The awards, presented annually by MHT's Board of Trustees, are the highest level of recognition for historic preservation and heritage education projects in Maryland. The Awards will be presented on Tuesday, January 31 at 4:30PM in the Governor Calvert Ballroom in Annapolis, with a reception to follow in the Atrium.

"Each award highlights an important and unique aspect of historic preservation and the important and powerful ways that historic places can impact our lives and communities" said Harrison B. Wetherill, Jr., of Annapolis, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The Board will present awards in nine categories to individuals and organizations from Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Kent, Prince George's, Montgomery and Washington counties. Categories and award winners are listed below this press release.

2012 recipients were selected from nominations submitted from across Maryland. In selecting the winners the Board considers a variety of factors including: community impact; adherence to best practices; and innovation. All winners are considered to be exemplary role models. "These individuals and projects represent the best in heritage education, community revitalization, and volunteerism in Maryland" said Wetherill.

For more information about the Maryland Preservation Awards visit mht.maryland.gov/awards.html.

The Maryland Historical Trust is an agency of the Maryland Department of Planning. The MHT was formed in 1961 to assist the people of Maryland in identifying, studying, evaluating, preserving, protecting and interpreting the state's significant prehistoric and historic districts, sites, structures, cultural landscapes, heritage areas, cultural objects, and artifacts, as well as less tangible human and community traditions.

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2012 Maryland Preservation Award Recipients

Excellence in Media and Publications

PROJECT: *Annapolis: City on the Severn, A History*

RECIPIENTS: Jane Wilson McWilliams, Johns Hopkins University Press, Four Rivers Heritage Area, Annapolis Maritime Museum, The Asgard of Maryland, The Annapolis History Consortium

LOCATION: Annapolis

Annapolis, City on the Severn: A History by Jane Wilson McWilliams presents 325 years of Maryland's capital city in a work both scholarly and accessible. Published by the Johns Hopkins University Press and the Maryland Historical Trust Press, it is the first comprehensive history of Annapolis from settlement in the mid-seventeenth century to modern-day maturity and the only one to fully reference the sources used. This book covers the political, social, ethnic, cultural, and religious aspects of the city as they evolved over time. Central to the story are the physical development of Annapolis and its relationship, both geographical and political, to Anne Arundel County, to the province and State of Maryland, and to the nation at large. This compendium will serve as the reference manual on Annapolis history for years to come.

PROJECT: *The War of 1812 in Charles County's Backyard: A Virtual Tour*

RECIPIENTS: Ella Virginia Houck Holloway Chapter of the U.S. Daughters of 1812, Mary Pat Berry, Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., La Plata High School, Southern Maryland Heritage Area, Geoffrey Hammersley, Matthew Bellerose, Casey Gaskins, Jennifer Munoz, Christopher Cheney, Jonathan Teeney, Garrett Lundegard, Orven Torralba, Dorothy Barbour, Charles Boone

LOCATION: Charles County

In the fall of 2010, the Ella Virginia Houck Holloway Chapter of the U.S. Daughters of 1812 approached U.S. history teacher Michael Mazzeo about enlisting La Plata High School students to produce a DVD on the role of Charles County in the War of 1812 in honor of the upcoming anniversary of the War. Mr. Mazzeo recruited student and budding producer Geoffrey Hammersley and a host of students to participate as actors, cameramen and designers for the project. The DVD begins with background information on the War of 1812 and then moves to sites in the County that played a role in the War. Through vignettes and letters written by British and American soldiers, the DVD explains the role Charles County played in the British invasion of 1814, educating students and citizens alike on the County's rich history.

PROJECT: *Montgomery County Historic Preservation Interactive Mapping Initiative*

RECIPIENTS: Montgomery County Department of Planning, Rollin Stanley, Richard DeBose, Christopher McGovern, Joshua Silver, Scott Whipple

LOCATION: Montgomery County

Through the implementation of the Historic Preservation Interactive Mapping Initiative, the Planning Department has made widely available high quality, useful mapping information and historic resource documentation on Montgomery County's identified historic resources. The GIS-based mapping information is made freely available via a user-friendly, interactive website that requires no special mapping software or password to access. Users of the interactive website can choose to navigate the map manually to search for historic properties, or use a tool to search by property address. The website allows for two-way communication between the public and planners by

enabling users to submit an inquiry via a pop-up text box which delivers users' questions to staff for a quick response. This innovative approach to educating the public has benefitted the County's citizens as well as historic preservation efforts by raising awareness of identified and protected historic sites.

Excellence in Community Engagement

PROJECT: *Cambridge City Hall Renovation Plans*

RECIPIENTS: City of Cambridge, Morgan State University School of Architecture and Planning, Delmarva Rural Laboratory, Sam Armstrong, Walter Avelar, Alieu Bawo, Willyem Boles, Troy Leftwich, Olusanmi Faweinmi, Dan Moreno, Ruth Connell, Dale Glenwood Green, Tim Crosby, Anne Roane

LOCATION: Dorchester County

The Cambridge Studio is a ten week program for graduate architecture students from Morgan State University directed by the Delmarva Rural Laboratory, Inc. in cooperation with the City of Cambridge and Morgan State University's School of Architecture and Planning. In 2011, seven students took part in the ten week summer program to develop design solutions for the reuse of the historic 1926 City Hall/Fire Hall by the City of Cambridge for the administrative, finance and public works departments. Through multiple presentations to the Cambridge community the students engaged local citizens in the design process. Prior to the start of the project, the community was skeptical of reusing the old city hall believing it would be too expensive to rehabilitate and maintain and require programmatic compromises for the City. As a result of the student's work, the community realized that the building could be restored while still meeting the needs of the City. When completed, the project will fulfill all of the City's programmatic requirements, create a high performance work environment, meet the City's sustainability goals, cost less than building a new structure, and re-establish the old City Hall as a community landmark.

Community Impact

PROJECT: *Rehabilitation of the Most Precious Blood Church for use as the Betterton Community Center*

RECIPIENTS: Town of Betterton, Betterton Community Development Corporation, Hedgelawn Foundation, Kent County News, Larry Crew, Linda Hall, Tom Hollidge, Judith Kohl, Jack Massey, Mike Otwell, Robert Pyfer, Karen Russo, Carolyn Sorge, Donald Sutton, Ed Zellers, Joan Zellers

LOCATION: Kent County

Betterton is a small, Eastern Shore town on a bluff overlooking the head of the Chesapeake Bay. During Betterton's heyday as a resort community Father James Patrick Fitzgerald built the Most Precious Blood church by hand, finishing in 1918. The church remained in active use until 1985 and was closed in 1995. In 2006, the deconsecrated building on a water view corner of Main Street was put up for sale. The Mayor and Town Council, wanting to save an important part of Betterton's history, made the difficult decision to purchase the property as a town focal point. After much planning and community input, the Town accepted a plan by the Betterton Development Corporation to rehabilitate the building with space for town offices, a community room, and a small museum. The project not only preserved an important town landmark, it also brought the community together while creating a much needed community space.

PROJECT: *Frederick Visitor Center*

RECIPIENTS: Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc., Proffitt & Associates Architects, J. Vinton Schafer & Sons, Inc., Rockwell Construction Co., Inc., John Fieseler, Elizabeth Shatto

LOCATION: Frederick County

The Frederick Visitor Center is the result of the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of a 110-year-old cannery warehouse within Frederick's National Register Historic District, fronting on the new extension of East Street constructed to link downtown Frederick and the MARC rail station to a new interchange on I-70. The rehabilitated structure creates an appropriate ambiance for the visitor amenities it houses, including exhibits and a multi-screen orientation film. The exhibit consists of a central cylindrical hub featuring the City of Frederick with brochure racks, video showing on three flat screens, and interpretation of local features, and seven "spoke" elements that align geographically with nearby byways and watertrails. A 66-seat theater adjoining the exhibit area provides a permanent home for an award-winning film. The new facility provides residents and visitors alike with the opportunity to learn more about the historical and cultural amenities Frederick County has to offer.

Preservation Partnerships

PROJECT: *Rehabilitation of the Old Towson Jail*

RECIPIENTS: Baltimore County, Towson Jail Associates, LLC., Small Deal Fund LP, Azola & Associates, Inc., Tony Azola, Marks, Thomas Architects, Tom Liebel, FAIA, LEED Fellow, Kristin Etzel, LEED AP, Skarda & Associates, Tim Sibol, MM Engineers, McKee & Associates, Renmark & Associates

LOCATION: Baltimore County

The rehabilitation of the historic Baltimore County Jail, now known as Bosley Hall, is an outstanding example of a public/private partnership undertaken by the Baltimore County government. The Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks intended to spend \$700,000 to stabilize and mothball the landmark building when it received an unsolicited proposal from Towson Jail Associates (TJA) to lease the property, and rehabilitate and operate the building as offices, all at TJA's expense. The County agreed to the plan which could save \$3 million over the term of the lease, as well as give them free access to the building's common areas for public use. TJA then embarked on a comprehensive rehabilitation of the building which preserved historic features, added state-of-the-art technology, and utilized sustainable building practices. The fully leased landmark was aptly renamed Bosley Hall, in honor of the Towson physician who originally donated the land for the jail building and courthouse.

PROJECT: *Rehabilitation of the Ridgeley Rosenwald School*

RECIPIENTS: Prince George's County, Prince George's County Public Schools, Prince George's County Board of Education, Prince George's County Council, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince George's County Historical and Cultural Trust, Prince George's County Historical Society, Mildred Ridgley Gray Charitable Trust, Inc., Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Oak Grove Restoration Company

LOCATION: Prince George's County

The Ridgeley Rosenwald School was built in 1927 as one of 27 Rosenwald Schools constructed for African Americans in Prince George's County. It was used as an elementary school until the 1950s, and then for a variety of uses until the mid-2000s when a project team comprised of government agencies and nonprofit organizations was created to adaptively reuse the property for a heritage museum and community space. Project work included rehabilitating the building, restoring a classroom as a permanent exhibit, and renovating office areas for community space. Care was taken to preserve original historic fabric, including plaster walls, wood floors, coat hooks, and the original 12/12 classroom windows. Artifacts found during the rehabilitation are used in an exhibit exploring early 20th century education for African Americans in Maryland. The School now operates as a museum and community meeting place in partnership with M-NCPPC and the Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Excellence in Commercial Rehabilitation

PROJECT: *La Banque de Fleuve*

RECIPIENTS: Conit's Group, Inc., Nick G. Conits, Rita St. Clair, Kimberly A. Barth, Brian Thim

LOCATION: Harford County

For more than fifty years the First National Bank was an important part of daily life in Havre de Grace. After closing its doors in 1958, the building served as host to several different retail shops before becoming the elegant venue that it is today. La Banque de Fleuve, translated as "The Bank on the River" is a fully restored building located in the heart of Havre de Grace overlooking the Susquehanna River at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Restoration of this unique structure required over 18 months of planning and construction. Prior to rehabilitation, the building was in serious disrepair. Great care was taken to preserve historic features including the original mosaic entryway, historic mahogany windows, doors and moldings, plaster cornices, and marble wainscoting. Modernized bathrooms and HVAC systems were installed, as was an ADA ramp for wheelchair access. The building now stands as an asset to the streetscape of downtown Havre de Grace.

Outstanding Stewardship of Historic Properties by a Government Agency

PROPERTY: *C&O Canal National Historical Park*

RECIPIENTS: National Park Service, C & O Canal Trust, Kevin D. Brandt,; Matthew Logan, Brian Carlstrom, Chris Stubbs, Mike Seibert, Becky Curtis, Sam Tamburro, Ashley Abruzzo, NPS Preservation Maintenance Team

LOCATION: Allegany, Frederick, Montgomery, and Washington counties

Since the National Park Service acquired the 184.5 mile-long Chesapeake and Ohio Canal in 1938, maintenance and reuse of the Park's 1,300 historic structures has been a concern. In the 1990s, NPS embarked on a leasing program that was successful at preserving buildings, but did not serve the greater visitor need. Partnering with the nonprofit C&O Canal Trust, NPS developed a new paradigm for adaptive reuse of the Park's historic buildings. The vision was to create a point-to-point immersive interpretive experience where visitors could stay overnight in the Park's buildings while traveling along the C&O Canal. The partners identified the many lock houses adjacent to the towpath as ideal opportunities for such reuse. These buildings hold primary significance to the park, but were vacant and served only as "scene setters" for the Park's 4.1 million annual visitors. The resulting Canal Quarters Program is an exemplary adaptive reuse arrangement within the National Park Service, catalyzed by a dynamic partnership, and furthering the Park's mission to protect and manage cultural and historic resources.

Outstanding Stewardship of MHT Easement Properties

PROPERTY: *Holly Hill*

RECIPIENT: The Clagett Family

LOCATION: Anne Arundel County

Holly Hill is a significant historic property in Anne Arundel County. It was built in three stages between 1698 and 1733 by the family of Richard Harrison, a Quaker planter and ship owner. In 1968, Brice McAdoo Clagett, a descendant of Richard Harrison, acquired the approximately 225-acre property which includes the historic house, gardens, a family graveyard, and numerous barns and outbuildings related to the house and farm. Over the course of the family's ownership, three historic preservation/conservation easements have been placed on the property, ultimately protecting all 225 acres from inappropriate development. The family has carefully maintained the property and has undertaken major projects including restoration of a tobacco barn and extensive brickwork repair to the main chimney and cellar. The Clagett Family is recognized for their demonstrated track record of stewardship of the property and for their efforts to ensure its protection in perpetuity.

Outstanding Organizational Leadership at the Local Level

RECIPIENTS: *Four Rivers Heritage Area; Carol Benson, Pat Barland, Donna Ware, Donna Hole*

LOCATION: Anne Arundel County

Currently celebrating its 10th Anniversary, Four Rivers Heritage Area is one of the leading Heritage Areas in Maryland. The organization has developed innovative programs and projects, including familiarization tours to South County heritage sites for key stakeholders, workshops for interpreters in collaboration with Historic London Town and Anne Arundel County Public Schools, and a variety of educational publications. Additionally, Four Rivers has formed committees focusing on new priorities outlined in the organization's five-year action plan. These committees are developing new ways to cross-promote historic sites and broaden the reach of existing educational programs. The organization has lead through empowering others – heritage sites, students, and community leaders – to be successful in advancing the public's appreciation, understanding and involvement in historic preservation and the conservation of living traditions.

Outstanding Individual Leadership at the Local Level

RECIPIENT: *Louis S. Diggs*

LOCATION: Baltimore County

While teaching classes in researching family and community histories at Catonsville High School, Mr. Diggs found that the African American students were unable to locate any written information about the history of their community. He spent the next year gathering information about Winters Lane, eventually producing a book on the community. Mr. Diggs has since researched 39 additional historic African American communities, as well as documented African American life in Baltimore County. In addition, Mr. Diggs has assisted African American communities in acquiring grants to maintain their historic structures. Because of his work, the Baltimore County Historical Society created "The Louis S. Diggs African American Research Center" which has already received over 600 reels of micro-film from the National Archive Office in New York City. Mr. Diggs continues to educate the citizens of Baltimore County to ensure that both the history and tangible remains of African American life in the County are preserved and celebrated.

RECIPIENT: *Elizabeth Scott Shatto*

LOCATION: Carroll, Frederick, and Washington counties

Elizabeth Shatto has been a leader in Frederick County heritage tourism efforts for the last twenty years. Her work at the Tourism Council of Frederick County began with leading the Frederick County Historic Sites Consortium which has successfully raised the professionalism of Frederick's museums and improved visitation and coordination among them. Key projects have included the master docent training program, "Bell and History Day," "Museums at the Mall," and the African American Resources–Culture and Heritage (AARCH) project. In 2005, Ms. Shatto became the director of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, expanding her expertise into Carroll and Washington counties. In this role, she coordinates regional planning and is leading efforts to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Ms. Shatto played a key role in the development of the Frederick Visitor's Center by compiling interpretive material for the exhibits as well as obtaining funding from federal and State grant programs. The entire mid-Maryland heritage community has benefitted from her skilled leadership.